Listing of the Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A carrier for at least one shaped charge, the carrier being disposable in use within a well bore, the carrier comprising a housing at least partially formed from a composite material, the composite material being non-frangible in normal use and the composite material being arranged substantially to contain debris created within the carrier as a result of firing of the at least one shaped charge and wherein the composite material is not steel.

2. (Previously presented) A carrier according to claim 1 in which the housing comprises an inner housing which is at least partially encompassed by an outer composite material overwrap in which the outer composite material is a reinforced polymer material.

3. (Original) A carrier according to claim 2 in which the inner housing is substantially of metal.

4. (Original) A carrier according to claim 1 in which the housing is a composite material housing.

5. (Previously presented) A carrier according to claim 1, wherein the housing comprises a thin-walled cylinder.

6. (Previously presented) A carrier according to claim 1, in which the housing comprises a thin-walled metal cylinder.

7. (Previously presented) A carrier according to claim 1, in which the carrier has at least one port formed therein.

8. (Previously presented) A carrier according to claim 1, in which a plurality of ports are distributed along the longitudinal extent of the carrier.

9. (Previously presented) A carrier for at least one shaped charge, the carrier being disposable in use within a well bore, the carrier comprising a housing at least partially formed from a composite material, the composite material being non-frangible in normal use and the composite material being arranged substantially to contain debris created within the carrier as a result of firing of the at least one shaped charge in which the composite material is a loaded polymer matrix.

10. (Previously presented) A carrier according to claim 1, in which the composite material includes longitudinally arranged fibres.

11. (Previously presented) A carrier according to claim 1, in which the composite material includes circumferentially arranged fibres.

12. (Previously presented) A carrier according to claim 11, in which said circumferentially arranged fibres have respective predetermined tensions.

13. (Previously presented) A perforating gun comprising a carrier according to claim 1.

14. (Previously presented) A method of improving fluid outflow from a well borehole the method comprising the steps of:
providing a perforating gun according to claim 13;
positioning the perforating gun in the well borehole;
perforating the borehole by firing the perforating gun;
retrieving debris resulting from the step of perforating by recovering the carrier of the perforating gun, the carrier containing debris resulting from the firing.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14 in which the fluid is one or more of hydrocarbons, water, and steam.